

between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: April 26, 1999.

**William E. Burrow,**  
*Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

#### **Office of Educational Research and Improvement**

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title:* IEA Civics Education Project—Pilot Test and Full Scale.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

#### **Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:**

Responses: 3,900.

Burden Hours: 3,150.

**Abstract:** The Civics Education Project is a multi-national project coordinated by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). More than 20 countries are involved in this collaborative effort to conduct a comparative analysis of civic education around the world. The IEA study has two phases. Phase 1 involves documenting what participating countries believe is important for 14-year-olds to know about a wide range of civic and political topics. Phase 2 involves a student assessment to assess their civic knowledge, skills, attitudes, and actions.

[FR Doc. 99-10816 Filed 4-29-99; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

##### **Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 1, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address DWERFEL@OMB.EOP.GOV. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Pat Sherrill@ed.gov*, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

##### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

Dated: April 27, 1999.

**William E. Burrow,**  
*Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

#### **Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs**

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Student Right-to-Know.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

**Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:**  
Responses: 8,000.

Burden Hours: 240,100.

**Abstract:** These regulations require institutions that participate in a Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 program to make available to students and prospective students the graduation rates of full-time undergraduates, and institutions that also are attended by students receiving athletically related student aid to make available to prospective student-athletes, and their parents, coaches, and counselors the graduation rates of students, and student athletes, by race, gender, and sport.

#### **Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services**

*Type of Review:* New.

**Title:** Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR) Program Assurances.

**Frequency:** Annually.

**Affected Public:** Not-for-profit institutions.

**Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:**

Responses: 57.

Burden Hours: 9.

**Abstract:** Section 509 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended (Act), and its implementing Federal Regulations at 34 CFR part 381, require the PAIR grantees to submit an application to the RSA Commissioner in order to receive assistance under section 509 of the Act. The Act requires that the application contain Assurances to which the grantee must comply. Section 509(f) of the Act specifies the Assurances. There are 57 PAIR grantees. All 57 grantees are required to be part of the protection and advocacy system in each State established under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 USC 6041 *et seq.*).

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Office of Student Financial Assistance, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and Federal Family Education Loan Program.

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of interest rates for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, for new loans made under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program.

**SUMMARY:** The Chief Operating Officer for the Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs announces the interest rates for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, for loans first disbursed on or after October 1, 1998, under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For the Federal Family Education Loan Program: Brian Smith, Program Specialist. For the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program: Barbara F. Grayson, Program Specialist, Mailing Address: Policy Development Division, Office of Student Financial Assistance, U.S. Department of Education, Room 3045, ROB-3, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-5345. Telephone: (202) 708-

8242. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** General—The formulas for determining the interest rates for Direct Loan and FFEL Program loans are provided in sections 455(b), 427A, and 428C of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). These provisions are amended by sections 452 and 416 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-244), which were enacted on October 7, 1998. The 1998 Amendments extend to July 1, 2003, the interest rate formulas for student and parent loans that have been in effect since July 1, 1998.

The interest rate calculations for all student and parent loans in the Direct Loan and FFEL programs for which the first disbursement is made on or after October 1, 1998, are based on the bond equivalent rate of the 91-day Treasury bills auctioned at the final auction held before June 1.

The Amendments change the formulas for setting interest rates on Consolidation loans under both the Direct Loan and the FFEL programs. However, the bill sets different effective dates for each program. The interest rate for new Consolidation loans is calculated by taking the weighted average of the loans being consolidated, and rounding up to the nearest higher 1/8th of 1 percent. Except as noted below under Federal Family Education Loan Program, it is a fixed rate and may not exceed 8.25 percent. This interest rate formula applies to FFEL Consolidation loans for which the application is received by an eligible lender on or after October 1, 1998, and before July 1, 2003. The same formula applies to Direct Loan Consolidation loans for which the application is received on or after February 1, 1999, and before July 1, 2003. The 1998 Amendments establish temporary rules for calculating the interest rate for Direct Loan Consolidation loans (both student and parent) for which the application is received on or after October 1, 1998, and before February 1, 1999. For these loans, the interest rate is determined annually and equals the bond equivalent rate of 91-day Treasury bills auctioned at the final auction held before June 1st plus 2.3 percent. The interest rate is capped at 8.25 percent.

The bond equivalent rate of 91-day Treasury bills auctioned on May 26, 1998, is 5.155 percent, which rounds to 5.16 percent.

### William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program

1. Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized loans, first disbursed on or after October 1, 1998:

(a) During the in-school, grace, and deferment periods:

The interest rate for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 6.86 percent (5.16 percent plus 1.7 percent equals 6.86 percent).

(b) During all other periods:

The interest rate for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 7.46 percent (5.16 percent plus 2.3 percent equals 7.46 percent).

2. Direct PLUS loans first disbursed on or after October 1, 1998:

The interest rate for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 8.26 percent (5.16 percent plus 3.1 percent equals 8.26 percent).

3. Direct Consolidation loans for which the application is received on or after October 1, 1998, and before February 1, 1999:

The interest rate for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 7.46 percent (5.16 percent plus 2.3 percent equals 7.46 percent).

4. Direct Consolidation loans for which the application is received on or after February 1, 1999:

The interest rate is the weighted average of the interest rates on loans and being consolidated, rounded to the nearest higher 1/8th of one percent, but may not exceed 8.25 percent. The rate does not vary annually; it is established for the life of the loan.

### Federal Family Education Loan Program

1. FFEL Stafford loans, first disbursed on or after October 1, 1998:

(a) During the in-school, grace, and deferment periods:

The interest rate for the October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 6.86 percent (5.16 percent plus 1.7 percent equals 6.86 percent).

(b) During all other periods:

The interest rate for the period October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 7.46 percent plus 2.3 percent equals 7.46 percent).

2. FFEL PLUS loans first disbursed on or after October 1, 1998:

The interest rate for the October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, is 8.26 percent (5.16 percent plus 3.1 percent equals 8.26 percent).

3. FFEL Consolidation loans for which the consolidation loan